

## **THE LEAVENWORTH GALLERY**

Colonel Henry Leavenworth was sent in 1827 to establish a cantonment on the Missouri River. After examining the land east of the river, he decided it was subject to flooding and disease would be rampant, so established the cantonment on the bluffs west of the river.

### **-The Murals**

Corporal Eric Bransby painted these three murals chronicling the early history of the fort in 1944. The first panel depicts 3rd Infantry soldiers arriving by keelboats in 1827. The second shows the arrival of the Dragoon s in 1834 and the peace conferences held here. The third panel portrays westward movement with traders heading along the Santa Fe Trail and immigrants heading out on the Oregon Trail.

### **-Henry Leavenworth**

The small oil painting of Henry Leavenworth is by famous Indian painter George Catlin. The larger painting is Harriet Leavenworth, Henry's third wife, the first divorced him and the second died in childbirth. COL (brevet BG) Leavenworth died in 1834 of cholera-like symptoms. He was originally buried in NY. His body was interred at Ft Leavenworth National Cemetery in 1904. Neither Henry nor Harriet ever lived here after the cantonment was established. Word arrived of his appointment to brigadier general shortly after his death.

### **-The Diorama**

The diorama is a depiction of Ft Leavenworth in 1855. By this time the mission had changed from patrolling the Santa Fe Trail to that of supply depot. Buildings remaining today are the Syracuse houses, the Rookery (the oldest continuously occupied residence in Kansas), the red brick house (the oldest brick residence in Kansas) and the Post Sutler's (Hiram Rich) house.

### **-Artifacts**

Ft. Leavenworth is a National Historic Landmark. Any artifact found is the property of the US Government and is to be turned over to the museum.

### **-Volunteers**

From 1846 until 1945, Ft Leavenworth has been the assembly point for all volunteers.

## FT LEAVENWORTH HISTORY(front hallway)

In 1827 Col. Henry Leavenworth and four companies of the 3 Infantry founded what is now known as Fort Leavenworth. In order to accomplish the missions, of protector of trade along overland trails and Indian mediator, the mounted Regiment replaced of Dragoons the Infantry troops assigned to Fort Leavenworth in 1834.

In keeping with Fort Leavenworth's role as a source of supplies for expeditions traveling West, the firm of Russell, Majors and Waddell, headquartered in Leavenworth became one of the pre-eminent freighting contractors of military goods. When the Civil War began, Regular Army troops at Fort Leavenworth were sent east, several regiments were raised from Kansas and equipped and trained here. Although no battles were fought, Fort Leavenworth again played an important role as Headquarters for the surrounding Military District.

After the Civil War, Fort Leavenworth served as winter quarters for the 7th Cavalry, and the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, one of the famed black regiments known as the "Buffalo Soldiers" was organized here in 1866. Fort Leavenworth gained additional publicity in 1877 as temporary home of Chief Joseph's band of the Nez Perce after their surrender in 1876. They were quartered in the area currently occupied by the airfield. The 1870's also saw the establishment of a military prison, or Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth in buildings originally used by the Quartermaster Depot. The massive stone walls seen today were built with prisoner labor.

In 1881 the School of Application for Infantry and Cavalry started at Fort Leavenworth, the first of many schools that would be established here over the years. The first classes began in 1882 and continued until suspended due to the Spanish-American War in 1898. Most of the Regulars left Fort Leavenworth when the war started, but two regiments, the 32<sup>nd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> United States Volunteers were organized here and maintained the post.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Century began with an expansion of educational resources of Fort Leavenworth due to the need for additional U.S. Army officer training. The Infantry and Cavalry School (formerly the School of Application for Infantry and Cavalry) was re-established as a one-year course. In addition, schools were created for Signals and Field Engineers and the Army Staff College was initiated. The Army Staff College was designed for promising graduates of the Infantry and Cavalry School. Additional schools meant improved post facilities and upgrades. A new hospital, additional barracks and a trolley station, were some of the new improvements.

United States entry into World War I in April 1917, meant Fort Leavenworth would undertake a familiar role once again troop induction and training. Thousands of men were inducted into the Army here, while thousands more were trained at the fort.

#### **-Megaphone**

The megaphone replaced a soldier having to stand on a ladder to give bugle calls. They relied on the bugle calls to tell them when to get up, when to eat, when to take care of their horses, when to drill and when to go to bed. The megaphone is the original one and was found in the DRMO lot on post.

#### **-Civilian Conservation Corps (1933-42)**

After the depression, millions were left unemployed. One of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs was the CCC. The enrollment criterion was for unemployed 18 to 25 year olds and single. The enlistment periods were 6 months with an option to re-enlist for another 6 months, up to a maximum of 2 years. Each enrollee earned \$30 a month, of which \$25 was sent to his family. They were provided room, board, clothing and tools by the government and expected to work 40 hours a week.

#### **-Citizen's Military Training Camp**

The CMTC camp at Ft Leavenworth, located south of the cemetery, started in 1923. The early camp was a tent city run for one month in the summer for 3 consecutive years. After completing the three sessions young men could get additional training to become 2nd LTs in the reserve corp.

#### **-Reception Center**

With the fall of France in 1940, Congress adopted the nation's first prewar conscription act. Ft Leavenworth's Reception Center was one of the largest in the VII Corps area. From 1940-46, 318,000 draft selectees were processed before being assigned to other posts for training.

#### **-Chapels of Fort Leavenworth**

Faith and religion have always played an integral part in the lives of soldiers and families at Fort Leavenworth. From the earliest missionary, Father Charles Van Quickenborne, to the present day Post Chapel Center on Pope Avenue, religious ceremonies have had a great influence and lasting memories on all who have passed through this Fort. This Communion Set was

## **BEYOND LEWIS AND CLARK**

### **-NATIVE AMERICANS**

Whose “West” is this? “West” of what? From the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean lay a vast land. To the Native Americans who lived there in 1800, it was not the “West” but home. Countless tribes controlled different areas all across the land. Some were weak, some mighty. They made alliances and made war, each tribe seeking to secure the resources needed to live, to gain power, to carry on.

### **-MAPPING THE WEST**

President Thomas Jefferson turned to the Army to lead an expedition in search of a passageway to the Pacific. He chose Captain Meriwether Lewis to lead. He in turn chose William Clark as his co-commander. Their party known as the Corps of Discovery explored, surveyed and mapped the American West using instruments such as the compass, octant, sextant and chronometer. They redrew the American map and captured an abundance of scientific and cultural knowledge.

### **-STEAMBOATS ON WESTERN WATERS**

In the spring of 1819, Major Stephen H. Long led an expedition up the Missouri River to establish a military outpost near the mouth of the Yellowstone. His command included a thousand soldiers and a team of scientists. They traveled up the Missouri in six steamboats. It was the first time steamboats had traveled the Missouri River and the first time scientific specialists were included in an official corps of discovery sent west.

### **-PACIFIC RAILROAD SURVEYS**

Gold was discovered in California and Oregon Country was proving rich in farmland and timber. Immigrants surged west, creating the need for a railroad uniting the east and west. In 1853, the Army Topographical Engineers were commissioned by Congress to survey and assess five possible routes. In the end, the Army could not settle on one practical route. The first route to be built went another way which was determined by American corporations. But the Pacific Railroad Surveys were another kind of success. The massive information compiled of scientific data, and illustrations of plants, animals and terrain helped fill in the gaps of the earlier explorers.

### **-AMERICAN CIVILIZATIONS**

By 1866, wagon trails and railroads were pushing through the Great Plains and into the mountains. Settlers such as farmers, merchants, miners and railroaders moved west at the prospect of real estate for all. The Indian Wars began. Exploration of the West was about invasion as much as it was about revelation, about dispossession as much as possession. In the history of the American West, the Frontier Army was of the only stabilizing influence. Whose “West” is it? ten

## **HUNT CLUB AND LEAVENWORTH VEHICLES**

### **-Hunt Club**

The Ft Leavenworth Hunt Club was started in 1926. Fort Leavenworth is the only Army post to have a Hunt Club affiliated with the military. The fire hose wagon (ca 1890) was used by Fire Company, No. 1. When it was retired, it became a passenger vehicle used by the Fort Leavenworth Hunt Club. The red coat, hat and storage box was owned by William McGlinn, a participant with the Hunt Club. The wood carving was originally from the Bandwagon (1936).

### **-Lincoln Carriage**

In 1859, Abraham Lincoln reportedly rode in this carriage when he visited Missouri and Kansas territories while campaigning for the presidency. A borrowed horse blanket was the only thing to keep him warm when he visited Leavenworth in mid December.

### **-Custer Sleigh**

This sleigh was used by General George Armstrong Custer while he was stationed here at Fort Leavenworth.

### **-Wainwright Sleigh**

Used by General Jonathan M. Wainwright while assigned here in the 1930's.

### **-Trap**

Used by Col. Paul Davidson, 10 Caval<sup>th</sup>, the last commanding officer of the 10 while still horse soldiers.

### **-Contract Freight Wagon**

Carries 5 tons of freight.

## MILITARY CAMPAIGNS

### -6 pounder

The decisive factor in the Mexican War was the development of light field artillery. The 6 pounder cannon could not shoot any farther than traditional artillery, but was lighter and highly maneuverable. The cannon is a brass cannon, thus lighter and more flexible than one made from iron. It was only good for 1000 firings since brass is soft and wore easily.

### -12 pound mountain howitzer

These four tubes saw use in the Mexican War and one of them was used by U. S Grant.

### -6 mule Army freight wagon

-farm or freight wagon

Chassis part of this vehicle was salvaged from Russell, Majors and Waddell wagon shops in the corral area. Originally used by the Government freight contractors. Chassis assemble and box body built by John and William McGlenn in 1937.

## BUFFALO SOLDIERS

In 1866, Congress passed an act authorizing the formation of Colored Regiments. The regiments were comprised of African American enlisted men and commanded by white officers. They guarded the stagecoaches, did mail runs in areas thought to be too dangerous, fought Indians, helped with them on reservations, aided settlers, chased outlaws, built and repaired buildings on post, built roads and had the lowest desertion rates in the Army. Through this all they fought well and with honor.

## PUNITIVE EXPEDITION

In 1915, Venustiano Carranza became president of Mexico. Pancho Villa, a Mexican revolutionary fighting for the rights of the common man didn't like the dictator. To protest the US backing of Carranza, Villa and his band made many raids into the US culminating with the 1916 raid in to Columbus, NM in 1916. The US retaliated with a raid into Mexico with the intent of capturing Villa and disrupting his band. He was never captured but his band was broken up. The Punitive Expedition became a valuable training and proving ground for men and equipment. It was the first to use the Aero Squadron deploying eight JN-3 (Jennies) biplanes. The Jennies were a hassle in the desert. The engines were hard to keep clean, the variations in temperature and humidity warped and cracked the wood. The one shown here is a later model.